

HRT3M


World Religions



Unit 1

The Religious Impulse

1.1 Introduction to World Religions



Learning Goals:

- analyze the similarities and differences between the central beliefs of various religions;
- analyze and describe the connection between the human experience and sacred writings and oral teachings;

1.1 Introduction to World Religions



→ identify the function of religion in human experience.

1.1 Introduction to World Religions

→ Journals

1.1 Introduction to World Religions

∞ Pre-Quiz

∞ Not for marks, just to see how much you know already about world Religions

Question 1



❧ The Holy Book for Islam is called the

- a. Bible
- b. Torah
- c. New Testament
- d. Qur'an

Question 2



What did Moses receive from God at Mount Sinai?

- a) The Ten Commandments
- b) instructions to build an ark
- c) burning bush
- d) a promise that God would protect the Hebrew people

Question 3



Why are Christians baptized?

- a) to officially join the church
- b) to celebrate their Christian birth
- c) to cleanse their soul of original sin
- d) Both b and c are true.

Question 4



Which religion believes that Brahma created the universe?

- a) Judaism
- b) Christianity
- c) Islam
- d) Hinduism

Question 5



What do Muslim's believe God's proper name is?

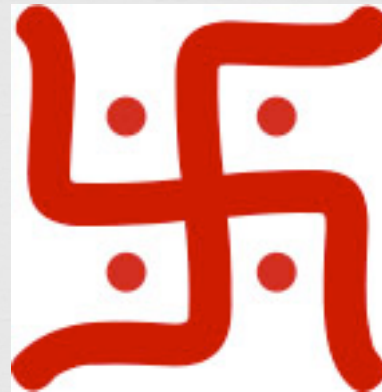
- a) Yahweh
- b) Jesus
- c) Muhammad
- d) Allah

Question 6



The Swastika, meaning good luck and well being, is an important symbol for which religion?

- a) Judaism
- b) Hinduism
- c) Islam
- d) Jainism



Question 7



What happens to a Buddhist baby boy at one month of age?

- a) The parents take the baby to the temple so his head can be shaved.
- b) He receives his first name.
- c) He leaves the temple for the first time to live with his parents.
- d) None of the above.

Question 8



The festival of Yom Kippur is celebrated by which faith?

- a) Buddhism
- b) Hinduism
- c) Sikhism
- d) Judaism

Question 9



In Christianity, how long does Lent last?

- a) 40 days
- b) two weeks
- c) from sunset on Friday till sunset on Saturday
- d) one month

Question 10



What religion did Mahatma Gandhi practice?

- a) Judaism
- b) Christianity
- c) Hinduism
- d) Taoism

Question 1



☞ The Holy Book for Islam is called the

- a. Bible
- b. Torah
- c. New Testament
- d. Qur'an

ANSWER D

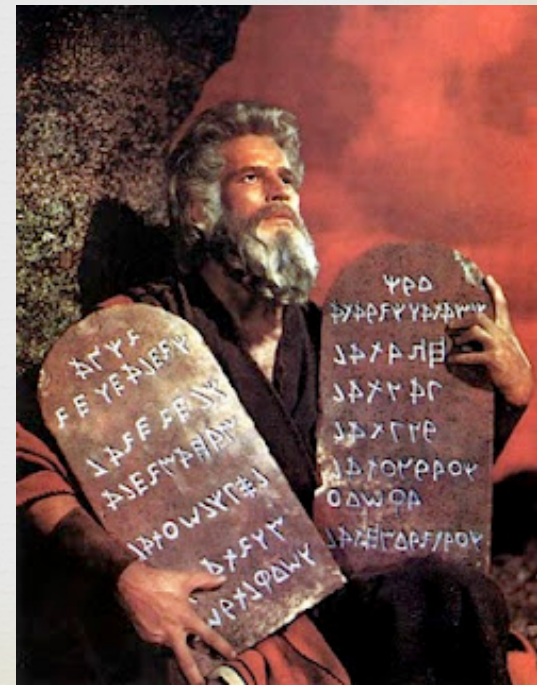


Question 2



What did Moses receive from God at Mount Sinai?

- a) The Ten Commandments
- b) instructions to build an ark
- c) burning bush
- d) a promise that God would protect the Hebrew people



Question 3



Why are Christians baptized?

- a) to officially join the church
- b) to celebrate their Christian birth
- c) to cleanse their soul of original sin
- d) Both b and c are true.

ANSWER: C

Question 4



Which religion believes that Brahma created the universe?

- a) Judaism
- b) Christianity
- c) Islam
- d) Hinduism

ANSWER: D

Question 5



What do Muslim's believe God's proper name is?

- a) Yahweh
- b) Jesus
- c) Muhammad
- d) Allah

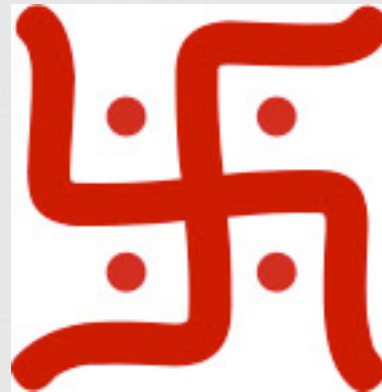
ANSWER D

Question 6



The Swastika, meaning good luck and well being, is an important symbol for which religion?

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- b) Hinduism
- c) Islam
- d) Jainism



ANSWER B

Question 7



What happens to a Buddhist baby boy at one month of age?

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- b) He receives his first name.
- c) He leaves the temple for the first time to live with his parents.
- d) None of the above.

ANSWER A

Question 8



The festival of Yom Kippur is celebrated by which faith?

- a) Buddhism
- b) Hinduism
- c) Sikhism
- d) Judaism

ANSWER: D

Question 9



In Christianity, how long does Lent last?

- a) 40 days
- b) two weeks
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- d) one month

ANSWER A

Question 10



What religion did Mahatma Gandhi practice?

- a) Judaism
- b) Christianity
- c) Hinduism
- d) Taoism

ANSWER: C

Exploring Religion



Common Features of Religion

Instead of first attempting to define different beliefs, experiences it is easier to look at things that all religions have in common

Most religions, share many of these characteristics, if not all

Exploring Religion: Common Features



- ❧ A belief in the supernatural and in a spiritual world beyond our physical material world
- ❧ A belief in an existence of a soul
- ❧ A collection of sacred writings or scriptures
- ❧ Organized institutions

Exploring Religion: Common Features



- ❧ A strong sense of family and community based rituals and festivals that represent and celebrate shared beliefs and practices
- ❧ A set of answers about the most pressing human questions, for example, the meaning of life and suffering.
- ❧ Rules of conduct designed to help followers lead an honorable life and to provide order and purpose to individual and community life

Exploring Religion: Common Features



- ❧ A system of ethics that offers a guide to moral behavior
- ❧ Significant founders or inspired leaders who introduced or spurred the development of the faith
- ❧ A search for perfection or salvation
- ❧ A life of faith and worship

Exploring Religion: Common Features



- ❧ Techniques for focusing or concentrating one's awareness
- ❧ An enriching impact on the lives of its adherents

SO WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN?????

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



- ❧ Since the beginning of human existence, people have turned to Religion in one form or another
- ❧ One aspect of religious impulse is a recoiling from something, such as fear.....while another is a search or quest for something better, yet somewhat unattainable.
- ❧ There are a number of factors that lead us to religion, such as:.....

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Fear

Through all of development, modern humans share the same deep-seated fears that our predecessors experienced throughout time

What are some fears that you have??

Education, Our riches, ...or deeper, death, loneliness, being doing wrong

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Wonder

Many things go unexplained (massive storms, stars)

Creation

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Questioning

Life plan

Not living a life of chance

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Identity

Physical Descriptions

Stereotypes

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Intuition

Materialistic

Seek refuge from the so called reality

Exploring Religion: Why is Religion practiced?



Big Questions.....No Easy Answers

Big Questions

Your Credo



✧ This course looks at many aspects of religion, including personal beliefs

Assignment #1

Make a collage of your most cherished and deeply held beliefs. You are free to comment on whatever is important to you. This may include family, values, life, death, right and wrong.

Title this, “My personal Credo”

Religion and Ethics



❧ Life Choices

❧ Both religion and ethics are concerned with the same main idea.....

→ Being good, or doing the right thing

Ethics may be defined as the search for good judgement about how to act or behave

Religion and Ethics



✧ Humanist point of view, what really matters in life

Science and Religion



- ❧ Viewed as rivals
- ❧ True nature of the world, its origins, purpose, and future direction
- ❧ Evolution (Charles Darwin) even though he was a religious man
- ❧ In the 21st Century we are seeing that there are some similarities between the two

Science and Religion



- Both concerned with truth and understanding, especially when it come to the search for purpose and meaning

Technology and Religion



- ❧ Technology has not only made the world a global village but has also in a sense shrunk the universe
- ❧ For some, they see the future as an era of tremendous wealth, health and happiness through technology
- ❧ Others, environmental destruction, we have to look far beyond our basic needs to find true happiness,

Technology and Religion



- ❧ Despite all of the promise of the new technologies, many individuals believe the central questions that are at the heart of most religions still need answers
- ❧ WHO AM I?
- ❧ WHY AM I HERE?
- ❧ HOW SHOULD I LIVE MY LIFE?
- ❧ WHAT IS MY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS
- ❧ IS THERE LIFE OR EXISTENCE AFTER DEATH?
- ❧ HOW AND WHY WAS THE UNIVERSE CREATED?

HOMework



☞ CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING PG 13 # 1-4